in perpetuity and the funds so collected can be utilised for future development of National Highways.

(xiii) National Highways Authority of India/Government of India has been authorised to invest upto 40% of project cost to make the project viable.

B. *Port Sector*

The Major Port Trusts have been authorised to invite private sector participation in:

(i) Leasing out existing assets of the port;

(ii) Construction/Creation of additional assets, such as:—

(a) construction and operation of container terminals.

(b) construction and operation of bulk, break bulk, multipurpose and specialised cargo berths.

(c) Warehousing, Container Freight Stations, Shortage facilities and tank farms.

(d) Crange/Handling Equipment.

(e) Setting up of captive power plants.

(f) Dry docking and ship repair facilities.

(iii) Leasing of equipment for port handling and leasing of floating crafts from the private sector.

(iv) Pilotage (only for Indian National).

(v) Captive facilities for port based industries.

In the road sector, 4 projects with an estimated cost of Rs. 101 crores have been awarded in the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh. In the ports sector, an approximate amount of Rs. 1470 crores of private investment has been offered for 9 projects in various ports. One contract for over Rs. 700 crore has been signed for construction of a container terminal at Jawaharlal Nehru Port.

(c) The incentives to private sector have only been announced recently.

(d) New strategies are being continuously evolved for attracting private sector investment in the country as a whole and not any State in particular.

Modernisation plan for NTC Mills

*16. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have dropped Rs. 2005 crore modernisation plan for NTC mills submitted by the former Textile Minister Mr. G. Venkata Swamy;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore; and

(c) the action taken to revive the viable units?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) On account of their net worth erosion, 8 out of the 9 subsidiaries of NTC have been referred to and declared sick by the BIFR. Government approved a revised Turn Around Plan in May, 1995, envisaging modernisation of 79 mills at a cost of Rs. 2005.72 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable units into 18 viable units by merger etc. The funds for modernisation have to be raised from sale of surplus lands and assets. Due to the reluctance of the State Government of Maharashtra to approve the sale of surplus lands of the Mumbai mills from where more than 80% of the sale proceeds are estimated and since the I BIFR has not yet approved the package, the Turn Around Plan could not be taken up till date. In this background, the NTC has reviewed the unitwise viability, keeping in view the concessions agreed to by the Govt, in 1995 and the concept of net worth becoming positive. The report of the NTC is under consideration of the Government.